IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Applicants: Date: July 30, 2007

> Haight et al. Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 09/933,461 Examiner: J. J. Johnson

Filed: August 20, 2001 Docket No.: YOR919980510US2

For: METHOD FOR MINIMIZING SAMPLE DAMAGE DURING THE ABLATION OF MATERIAL USING A FOCUSED ULTRASHORT PULSED LASER BEAM

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION DATED 01/29/2007 AND STATUS INQUIRY

The referenced Office Communication states:

"Due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension. applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Applicants request the status of this application.

Respectfully submitted.

Bv: /Daniel P. Morris/

Dr. Daniel P. Morris, Esq. Reg. No. 32.053 Phone No. (914) 945-3217

IBM Corporation Intellectual Property Law Dept. P. O. Box 218 Yorktown Heights, New York 10598